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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: James Andrew Davis, et al.) Re: Preliminary Amendment  
Serial No.: 09/997,199 ) Group: 2133  
Filing Date: November 28, 2001 ) Examiner: not yet assigned  
For: "MANUFACTURING TEST FOR A FAULT ) Our Ref: B-4258CIP 619319-4  
TOLERANT MAGNETORESISTIVE..." ) Date: May 14, 2002

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, it is respectfully requested that the following amendment be made to the Specification:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the new paragraph, set forth below, on page 1 (line 5) of the specification as originally filed.

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

a1 This application is related to the pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/440,323 filed on November 15, 1999. <sup>now U.S. Patent No. 6,532,565</sup>